

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN JO 02092 130245Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 DHA-02 /058 W
-----131532Z 086257 /44

R 122153Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7349
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 2092

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, CS, ES
SUBJECT: COSTA RICAN REACTION TO BORGONOVO'S DEATH: GOES SCORED

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. THE DEATH OF SALVADORAN FOREIGN MINISTER MAURICIO BORGONOVO HAS BEEN CONDEMNED BY COSTA RICANS OF ALL POLITICAL STRIPES. IN A STATEMENT RELEASED MAY 11, FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO CALLED THE ASSASSINATION OF BORGONOVO STUPID AND UNNECESSARY. BORGONOVO, HE ADDED, WAS A BRAVE AND HONORABLE PUBLIC SERVANT WHO WAS INNOCENT OF THE CHARGES HIS SLAYERS LEVELED AGAINST THE GOES. NOTING HIS KIDNAPPERS USED THE NAME OF FARABUNDO MARTI, HE REGRETTED THAT THEY DID NOT FOLLOW HIS FOOTSTEPS AS MARTI WOULD NOT HAVE MURDERED AN INNOCENT MAN. FACIO CONCLUDED BY DECLARING "COSTA RICA IS PAINED BY MAURICIO BORGONOVO'S DEATH. THE GOVERNMENT IS, A ENLAPHPECIALLY AM, AS HE WAS MY FRIEND. OUR CONDOLENCES ARE EXTENDED TO THE FAMILY OF OUR DECEASED COLLEAGUE AND SIMILARLY TO THE ENTIRE SALVADORAN NATION WHICH HAS LOST ONE OF

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ITS BEST MEN." PRO-GOVERNMENT EXCELSIOR PUBLISHED FACIO'S SIGNED STATEMENT IN ITS EDITORIAL SPACE.

2. THE SENTIMENT EXPRESSED BY FACIO IS SHARED BY MANY COSTA RICANS--SYMPATHY FOR THE FAMILY AND SALVADORAN PEOPLE BUT NOT THE GOES. MANY COSTA RICANS BLAME THE GOES, ALONG WITH THE GUERRILLAS, FOR BORGONOVO'S DEATH

AND HAVE COMBINED THEIR EXPRESSIONS OF CONDOLENCE WITH
CONDEMNATION OF THE MOLINA ADMINISTRATION. PLN DEPUTY
ADELINA ZONTA SANCHEZ SUMMED UP THE REACTION, WHEN SHE
DECLARED: "ONE DOES NOT KNOW WHO SHOULD BE CASTIGATED
MORE...THE GOVERNMENT OR THE GUERRILLA MOVEMENT."
END UNCLASSIFIED

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3. COMMENT: FACIO POINTED OUT TO CHARGE MAY 12 THAT
HIS STATEMENT OF CONDOLENCE WAS ADDRESSED TO FAMILY AND
TO SALVADORAN NATION, AND NON-INCLUSION OF REFERENCE TO
GOES WAS INTENTIONAL. FACIO AND GOCR BELIEVE, QUITE
STRONGLY, THAT MOLINA GOVERNMENT DID NOT DO ALL THAT
IT COULD HAVE TO SAVE BORGONOVO'S LIFE.
KILDAY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MURDER, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, MINISTER COUNSELORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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From: SAN JOSE
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation History:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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